

OPINIONS AND DECLARATIONS RENDERED BY THE INTER- NATIONAL COMMISSION ON ZOOLOGICAL NOMENCLATURE

Edited by

FRANCIS HEMMING, C.M.G., C.B.E.

Secretary to the Commission

VOLUME 13. Part 22. Pp. 291—308

DIRECTION 75

Suppression under the Plenary Powers of the family-group name URINATORIDAE (correction of URINATORÉS) Vieillot, 1818, and addition to the *Official List of Family-Group Names in Zoology* of the names PODICIPITIDAE (correction of PODICEPINAE Bonaparte, 1831, and GAVIIDAE Coues, 1903, as the family-group names for Grebes and Divers (Loons) respectively (Class Aves) (*Direction* supplementary to *Opinion* 401)

LONDON :

Printed by Order of the International Trust for
Zoological Nomenclature
and

Sold on behalf of the International Commission on Zoological
Nomenclature by the International Trust at its Publications Office
41, Queen's Gate, London, S.W.7
1957

Price Twelve Shillings

(All rights reserved)

INTERNATIONAL COMMISSION ON ZOOLOGICAL NOMENCLATURE

COMPOSITION AT THE TIME OF THE ADOPTION OF THE RULING GIVEN IN DIRECTION 75

A. The Officers of the Commission

Honorary Life President : Dr. Karl JORDAN (*British Museum (Natural History), Zoological Museum, Tring, Herts., England*)

President : Professor James Chester BRADLEY (*Cornell University, Ithaca, N.Y., U.S.A.*)
(12th August 1953)

Vice-President : Senhor Dr. Afranio do AMARAL (*Sao Paulo, Brazil*) (12th August 1953)

Secretary : Mr. Francis HEMMING (*London, England*) (27th July 1948)

B. The Members of the Commission

(Arranged in order of precedence by reference to date of election or of most recent re-election,
as prescribed by the International Congress of Zoology)

Professor H. BOSCHMA (*Rijksmuseum van Natuurlijke Historie, Leiden, The Netherlands*)
(1st January 1947)

Senor Dr. Angel CABRERA (*La Plata, Argentina*) (27th July 1948)

Mr. Francis HEMMING (*London, England*) (27th July 1948) (*Secretary*)

Dr. Henning LEMCHE (*Universitets Zoologiske Museum, Copenhagen, Denmark*) (27th
July 1948)

Professor Teiso ESAKI (*Kyushu University, Fukuoka, Japan*) (17th April 1950)

Professor Pierre BONNET (*Université de Toulouse, France*) (9th June 1950)

Mr. Norman Denbigh RILEY (*British Museum (Natural History), London*) (9th June 1950)

Professor Tadeusz JACZEWSKI (*Institute of Zoology, Polish Academy of Sciences, Warsaw,
Poland*) (15th June 1950)

Professor Robert MERTENS (*Natur-Museum u. Forschungs-Institut Senckenberg, Frankfurt
a.M., Germany*) (5th July 1950)

Professor Erich Martin HERING (*Zoologisches Museum der Humboldt-Universität zu
Berlin, Germany*) (5th July 1950)

Senhor Dr. Afranio do AMARAL (*S. Paulo, Brazil*) (12th August 1953) (*Vice-President*)

Professor J. R. DYMOND (*University of Toronto, Toronto, Canada*) (12th August 1953)

Professor J. Chester BRADLEY (*Cornell University, Ithaca, N.Y., U.S.A.*) (12th August
1953) (*President*)

Professor Harold E. VOKES (*University of Tulane, Department of Geology, New Orleans,
Louisiana, U.S.A.*) (12th August 1953)

Professor Béla HANKÓ (*Mezőgazdasági Múzeum, Budapest, Hungary*) (12th August 1953)

Dr. Norman R. STOLL (*Rockefeller Institute for Medical Research, New York, N.Y.,
U.S.A.*) (12th August 1953)

Mr. P. C. SYLVESTER-BRADLEY (*Sheffield University, Sheffield, England*) (12th August 1953)

Dr. L. B. HOLTHUIS (*Rijksmuseum van Natuurlijke Historie, Leiden, The Netherlands*)
(12th August 1953)

Dr. K. H. L. KEY (*Commonwealth Scientific and Industrial Research Organisation,
Canberra, A.C.T., Australia*) (15th October 1954)

Dr. Alden H. MILLER (*Museum of Vertebrate Zoology, University of California, U.S.A.*)
(29th October 1954)

Doc. Dr. Ferdinand PRANTL (*Národní Museum v Praze, Prague, Czechoslovakia*) (30th
October 1954)

Professor Dr. Wilhelm KÜHNELT (*Zoologisches Institut der Universität, Vienna, Austria*)
(6th November 1954)

Professor F. S. BODENHEIMER (*The Hebrew University, Jerusalem, Israel*) (11th November
1954)

Professor Ernst MAYR (*Museum of Comparative Zoology at Harvard College, Cambridge,
Massachusetts, U.S.A.*) (4th December 1954)

Professor Enrico TORTONESE (*Museo di Storia Naturale "G. Doria", Genova, Italy*)
(16th December 1954)

DIRECTION 75

SUPPRESSION UNDER THE PLENARY POWERS OF THE FAMILY-GROUP NAME "URINATORIDAE" (CORRECTION OF "URINATOIRES") VIEILLOT, 1818, AND ADDITION TO THE "OFFICIAL LIST OF FAMILY-GROUP NAMES IN ZOOLOGY" OF THE NAMES "PODICIPITIDAE" (CORRECTION OF "PODICEPINAE") BONAPARTE, 1831, AND "GAVIIDAE" COUES, 1903, AS THE FAMILY-GROUP NAMES FOR GREBES AND DIVERS (LOONS) RESPECTIVELY (CLASS AVES) ("DIRECTION" SUPPLEMENTARY TO "OPINION" 401)

RULING :—(1) Under the Plenary Powers the family-group name URINATORIDAE (correction of URINATOIRES) Vieillot, 1818, is hereby suppressed for the purposes of the Law of Priority but not for those of the Law of Homonymy.

(2) The under-mentioned family-group names of taxa belonging to the Class Aves are hereby placed on the *Official List of Family-Group Names in Zoology* with the Name Numbers severally specified below :—

- (a) PODICIPITIDAE (correction of PODICEPINAE) Bonaparte, 1831 (type genus : *Podiceps* Latham, 1787) (Name No. 190) ;
- (b) GAVIIDAE Coues, 1903 (type genus : *Gavia* Forster, 1788) (Name No. 191).

(2) The under-mentioned family-group names are hereby placed on the *Official Index of Rejected and Invalid Family-Group Names in Zoology* with the Name Numbers severally specified below :—

- (a) COLYMBIDAE Shaw, 1824 (type genus : *Colymbus* Linnaeus, 1758, incorrectly determined as the genus typified by *Colymbus immer* Brünnich, 1764) (invalid (i) under *Declaration* 28 because based upon an erroneously determined type genus and (ii) under *Declaration* 20 because the name of the type genus has been suppressed under the Plenary Powers by the Ruling given in *Opinion* 401) (Name No. 216) ;
- (b) COLYMBIDAE Coues, 1903 (type genus : *Colymbus* Linnaeus, 1758, correctly determined as the genus typified by *Colymbus cristatus* Linnaeus, 1758) (invalid under *Declaration* 20 because the name of the type genus has been suppressed under the Plenary Powers by the Ruling given in *Opinion* 401) (Name No. 217) ;
- (c) PODICEPINAE Bonaparte, 1831 (type genus : *Podiceps* Latham, 1787) (an Invalid Original Spelling for PODICIPITIDAE) (Name No. 218) ;
- (d) the under-mentioned Erroneous Spellings for PODICIPITIDAE (correction of PODICEPINAE) Bonaparte, 1831 (type genus : *Podiceps* Latham, 1787) :—
 - (i) PODICEPSINAE Gray (G.R.), 1840 (Name No. 219) ;
 - (ii) PODICIPINAE Bonaparte, 1838 (Name No. 220) ;
 - (iii) PODICIPEDIDAE Ogilvie-Grant, 1898 (Name No. 221) ;
- (e) URINATORIDAE (correction of URINATOIRES) Vieillot, 1818 (type genus : *Urinator* Lacépède, 1799)

(first published in correct form as URINATORIDAE by Baird, Brewer and Ridgeway, 1884), as suppressed under the Plenary Powers in (1) above (Name No. 222) ;

(f) URINATORES Vieillot, 1818 (an Invalid Original Spelling for URINATORIDAE) (Name No. 223).

(3) The under-mentioned specific name is hereby placed on the *Official List of Specific Names in Zoology* with the Name Number 1380 :—

arcticus Linnaeus, 1758, as published in the combination *Colymbus arcticus*.

(4) The under-mentioned generic name is hereby placed on the *Official Index of Rejected and Invalid Generic Names in Zoology* with the Name Number 995 :—

Podicipes [Oken], 1839 (an Invalid Emendation of *Podiceps* Latham, 1787).

I. THE SUBJECT MATTER OF THE PRESENT “ DIRECTION ”

The present *Direction* is in the nature of a supplement to *Opinion* 401 in that it deals with certain family-group-name problems involved in connection with the generic names *Colymbus* Linnaeus, 1758, *Podiceps* Latham, 1787, and *Gavia* Forster, 1788 (Class Aves) which formed the subject of that *Opinion* which it was necessary at that time to defer for further investigation. The required consultations in regard to this matter were concluded in the summer of 1956 and on 7th August of that year

the following Report was completed by the Secretary for the consideration of the International Commission :—

Proposed use of the Plenary Powers to secure that the family-group name for the Divers (Loons) shall be "Gaviidae" Coues, 1903, the oldest family-group name based on the generic name "Gavia" Forster, 1788, the name prescribed for this genus by the Ruling under the above Powers given in "Opinion" 401

By FRANCIS HEMMING, C.M.G., C.B.E.

(Secretary to the International Commission on Zoological Nomenclature)

The object of the present application is to place before the International Commission on Zoological Nomenclature a proposal that it should use its Plenary Powers to render the family-group name GAVIIDAE Coues, 1903, the oldest available family-group name for the Divers (Loons) by suppressing the earlier name URINATORIDAE (correction of URINATOIRES) Vieillot, 1816 (Class Aves). The present application arises out of a Ruling given by the International Commission under its Plenary Powers in *Opinion* 401 on an application submitted by the Standing Committee on Ornithological Nomenclature established in 1950 by the Tenth International Ornithological Congress, Uppsala (Meinertzhagen, for the Standing Committee, 1952, *Bull. zool. Nomencl.* 9 : 6—7). Since the above *Opinion* has only just been published (24th July 1956, *Ops. Decls. int. Comm. zool. Nomencl.* 13 : 1—64), it may be convenient to note that in it the International Commission used its Plenary Powers to suppress the generic name *Colymbus* Linnaeus, 1758, and to validate the name *Podiceps* Latham, 1787 (type species : *Colymbus cristatus* Linnaeus, 1758) as the generic name for the Grebes and *Gavia* Forster, 1788 (type species : *Colymbus immer* Brünnich, 1764) as the generic name for the Divers (Loons). At the time when the application dealt with in the foregoing *Opinion* was submitted, the Commission did not normally deal with the family-group-name questions involved in applications regarding generic names and it did not do so on this occasion. The problem dealt with in the present application accordingly only came to light later when the Commission came to consider the family-group-name problems involved in the *Colymbus* case.

2. Double usage of the family name "COLYMBIDAE" : Owing to the long-standing usage of the generic name *Colymbus* Linnaeus, 1758 (*Syst. Nat.* (ed. 10) 1 : 135) both for the Divers (Loons) and for the Grebes, it was only to be expected that this generic name should have been taken as the base for a family name COLYMBIDAE for both these groups by ornithologists of the two schools of thought concerned. The earliest references for this name as used in each of the above senses are the following :—

- (a) COLYMBIDAE Shaw, 1824, *Gen. Zool.* 12 : 230 (type genus : *Colymbus* Linnaeus, 1758, incorrectly determined as the genus for the Divers) ;

- (b) COLYMBIDAE Coues, 1903, *Key N. Amer. Birds* (ed. 5) 2 : 104 (type genus : *Colymbus* Linnaeus, 1758, correctly determined as the genus for the Grebes).

3. Under *Declaration* 20¹ a family-group name is automatically suppressed under the Plenary Powers if the name of its type genus is suppressed under those Powers. Accordingly, since under the Ruling given in the Commission's *Opinion* 401 the generic name *Colymbus* Linnaeus, 1758, has been suppressed under the Plenary Powers, the same action involved the suppression of the family-group name COLYMBIDAE. This Ruling therefore terminates the existence of the family-group name COLYMBIDAE Coues, 1903. As objectively invalid names, both the name COLYMBIDAE Shaw, 1824, and the name COLYMBIDAE Coues, 1903, should now be placed on the *Official Index of Rejected and Invalid Family-Group Names in Zoology*.

(i) The Family-Group Name for the Divers (Loons)

4. **Publication of the name " GAVIIDAE " by Coues in 1903 :** It was not until the beginning of the present century that American ornithologists finally took the view that the oldest available generic name for the Divers (Loons) was *Gavia* Forster, 1788 (*Enchiridion Hist. nat.* : 38). This view was based on two premises, namely, (a) that, as shown by Stejneger (L.), in 1882 (*Proc. U.S. nat. Mus.* 5 : 43) the generic name *Colymbus* Linnaeus, 1758, so long used for the Divers, was not available for this genus, its type species being a Grebe, and (b) that the generic name *Urinator* Lacépède, 1799 (paragraph 5 below,) which Stejneger had adopted for the Divers was a junior subjective synonym of *Gavia* Forster, 1788. The first author to carry this view to its logical conclusion by establishing a nominal family-group taxon based on the generic name *Gavia* Forster was Coues who in 1903 (*Key N. Amer. Birds* (ed. 5) 2 : 104) published the family name GAVIIDAE.

5. **The generic name " Urinator " Lacépède, 1799 :** At this point it is necessary to take account of the bearing on the present case of the generic name *Urinator* Lacépède, 1799 (*Tab. Mamm. Ois.* : 14) referred to in paragraph 4 above. This nominal genus was established without cited nominal species but in [1802] (*in Buffon, Hist. nat., Quadr.* 14 : 310, 311) nominal species were cited for this genus by Lacépède himself. Five such species were then placed in this genus, two on page 310 and three on page 311. The second of the three species cited on page 311 was *Colymbus glacialis* Linnaeus, 1766 (*Syst. Nat.* (ed. 12)

¹ Published in 1955 (*Ops. Decls: int. Comm. zool. Nomencl.* 10 : i—viii.)

1(1) : 221). This nominal species was selected by Ogilvie-Grant, 1898 (*Cat. Birds Brit. Mus.* 26 : 486) as the type species of *Urinator* Lacépède. This nominal species is currently identified with *Colymbus immer* Brünnich, 1764. As under *Opinion* 401 the latter species has been designated as the type species of *Gavia* Forster, 1788, the generic name *Urinator* Lacépède, 1799, is a junior subjective synonym of *Gavia* Forster, 1788.

6. The family-group name “URINATORIDAE” (correction of “URINATOIRES”) Vieillot, 1816 : In 1818 (*Nouv. Dict. Hist. nat.* 27 : 120) Vieillot established as a “Famille” the nominal family-group taxon URINATOIRES. After giving the characters which he regarded as diagnostic for this taxon, Vieillot stated : “Cette Famille compose des genres HELIORNE, GREBE et PLONGEON”. Of these vernacular (French) generic names, “Plongeon” was the name applied to the Divers by French ornithologists in Vieillot’s day. Earlier in the same paper (: 114) Vieillot had dealt with the genus “Plongeon”, for which he had cited (as he considered) the equivalent Latin generic name *Colymbus* Linnaeus. The family-group name so published by Vieillot was introduced in the correct form URINATORIDAE in 1884 (*Water Birds N. Amer.* 2 : 444) by Baird, Brewer & Ridgeway who adopted the view put forward by Stejneger in 1882 (paragraph 4 above) that *Colymbus* Linnaeus was not available for the Divers (Loons) and that *Urinator* Lacépède, 1799, was the oldest available name for that genus and who completed the action implicitly required by Stejneger’s conclusions by introducing the nominal family name URINATORIDAE for this genus in place of the no longer available name COLYMBIDAE.

7. The rival names “URINATORIDAE” (correction of “URINATOIRES”) Vieillot, 1818, and “GAVIIDAE” Coues, 1903 : The family-group names URINATORIDAE (correction of URINATOIRES) Vieillot, 1818, and GAVIIDAE Coues, 1903, are, as we have seen, subjective synonyms of one another. Up to the year 1953 the valid name for the family-group taxon concerned would have been GAVIIDAE, for under Article 5 of the *Règles* as they existed at that time a family name had to be changed when the name of the type genus of the family had to be altered and in consequence the replacement under the Law of Priority of the name *Urinator* Lacépède, 1799, by the older name *Gavia* Forster, 1788, would have led automatically to the replacement also of the family name URINATORIDAE by the family name GAVIIDAE. The position in this matter was altered in 1953 as the result of a decision by the Fourteenth International Congress of Zoology, Copenhagen (1953 *Copenhagen Decisions zool. Nomencl.* : 36, *Decision* 54(1)(a)), which provided that “where the name of the type genus of a taxon belonging to the family-group has to be changed because it is found to be either (i) a junior objective synonym or (ii) a junior subjective synonym, the name of the family-group taxon based on the name of that type genus

is not to be changed". This decision had the praiseworthy object of limiting name-changing at the family-group level and it could serve that purpose whenever in the future it is necessary for either of the reasons given above to change the name of the type genus of a nominal family-group taxon. Unfortunately, however, this change in the *Règles* has in practice led to exactly the opposite result from that which it was intended to serve, for it has given rise to the emergence from synonymy of long-forgotten family-group names which have been enabled to displace well-known names in common use. This is exactly what would happen in the present case if the Commission did not intervene to prevent it. The re-emergence of the family name URINATORIDAE for the Divers would run counter to the object which the Commission set itself in *Opinion* 401, namely, the stabilisation of the Diver-name/Grebe-name problem on the basis of the acceptance of the names *Gavia* Forster and *Podiceps* Latham, and would open up a new era of name-changing in this group. It is accordingly recommended that in the interest of nomenclatorial stability and in completion of the settlement at the generic-name level by the Ruling given in the foregoing *Opinion*, the family-group name URINATORIDAE (correction of URINATORES) Vieillot, 1818, should be suppressed by the Commission under its Plenary Powers.

8. The specific name "arcticus" Linnaeus, 1758, as published in the combination "Colymbus arcticus" : Before leaving the Diver-name side of the present case, there is one further point which calls for attention. This is in connection with the specific name *arcticus* Linnaeus, 1758 (*Syst. Nat.* (ed. 10) 1 : 135), as published in the combination *Colymbus arcticus*, which is the oldest available name for the Black-throated Diver. Throughout the whole history of the *Colymbus* case the above name played an outstanding role, for of the species originally placed in the genus *Colymbus* by Linnaeus in 1758, the species so named was the only Diver (Loon), the remaining three species cited being all Grebes. Thus, it was the inclusion of *arcticus* in *Colymbus* in 1758 which alone provided the basis on which the claim that the name *Colymbus* should be used for the Divers and not for the Grebes was later built up. For these reasons it is perhaps a matter for surprise that, in making their application to the International Commission as to the species to be designated under the Plenary Powers to be the type species of the genus *Gavia* Forster, 1788, the genus in which the Divers are in future to be placed, the applicants passed over in silence the historical claims of the Black-throated Diver (*C. arcticus* Linnaeus, 1758) to be regarded as the typical representative of the Divers and instead recommended that the species to be designated as the type species of *Gavia* Forster should be the later-established nominal species *Colymbus immer* Brünnich, 1764, the Great Northern Diver. As already noted (paragraph 1 above) the recommendation so submitted was approved by the International Commission and the name *immer* Brünnich was placed on the *Official List of Specific Names in Zoology*. The name *arcticus* Linnaeus, 1758, was not, however, placed on the

Official List at the same time that the name *immar* Brünnich was entered thereon. This omission was an inadvertent breach of the General Directive by the International Congress of Zoology that the Ruling given in every *Opinion* is to be comprehensive in scope and is to deal with every name involved in the case submitted. It is accordingly recommended that this matter should now be regularised by the addition of the specific name *arcticus* Linnaeus, 1758, to the *Official List*.

(ii) The Family-Group Name for the Grebes

9. The Invalid Emendation "Podicipes" [Oken], 1839, of the generic name "Podiceps" Latham, 1787 : By its Ruling given in *Opinion* 401 the International Commission, as already noted (paragraph 1 above) has taken action under its Plenary Powers to secure that the generic name *Podiceps* Latham, 1787, with *Colymbus cristatus* Linnaeus, 1758, as type species, shall be the oldest available generic name for the Grebes. Before considering the question of the family-group name based on the foregoing name, attention must be drawn to an attempt which was made to emend the spelling of that name to *Podicipes*. The first author to have made this emendation appears to have been Oken in an anonymous note published in 1839 (*Isis* (Oken) 1839 : 673). This emendation was used by various later authors, including Saunders (H.) in 1889 (*Ill. Man. Brit. Birds* : 717), whose usage of this spelling was cited in the synonymy of *Podiceps cristatus* Linnaeus given in 1940 in Volume 4 of the *Handbook of British Birds* (: 85), by Ogilvie-Grant in 1898 (*Cat. Birds Brit. Mus.* 26 : 502) and by Coues in 1903 (*Key N. Amer. Birds* (ed. 5) 2 : 1051). There is no evidence in Latham's book that the spelling *Podiceps* was an Invalid Original Spelling and accordingly under the Rules laid down by the Fourteenth International Congress of Zoology, Copenhagen, 1953 (*Copenhagen Decisions zool. Nomencl.* : 43—44, *Decision* 71) the name *Podiceps* Latham is the Valid Original Spelling of this name and the name *Podicipes* [Oken] is an Invalid Emendation. This latter name should now be placed on the *Official Index of Rejected and Invalid Generic Names in Zoology*. Further, as pointed out by Professor L. W. Grensted, the Commission's Consulting Classical Adviser, in the Report attached to the present note as an Annexe, the emendation "*Podicipes*" would have been wholly invalid and unacceptable even if "*Podiceps*" had been an Invalid Original Spelling.

10. Family-Group Name based on the generic name "Podiceps" Latham, 1787 : The name for the family based on the generic name *Podiceps* Latham, 1787, has been spelled in a variety of ways by different authors. As a first step, therefore, the Commission's

Classical Advisor, Professor Grensted, was asked to report on which was the correct spelling for this family name. Professor Grensted's Report which, as already noted, is attached to the present paper as an Annexe, shows that the correct spelling is PODICIPITIDAE. The first author to establish a nominal family-group taxon based on the genus *Podiceps* Latham was Bonaparte, who in 1831 established this nominal taxon under the defectively formed name PODICEPINAE. It is necessary therefore to cite this name as "PODICIPITIDAE (correction of PODICEPINAE) Bonaparte, 1831". The correct spelling PODICIPITIDAE was propounded in 1903 by Coues (*Key N. Amer. Birds* (ed. 5) 2 : 1051, footnote), although he himself then used the spelling PODICIPEDIDAE. The correct spelling was used in 1940 in the *Handbook of British Birds* (4 : 85). The following are the original references for the various Spellings which have been published for this name :—

PODICEPINAE Bonaparte, 1831, *Saggio Distr. met. Anim. Vertebr.* : 62

PODICEPSINAE Gray (G.R.), 1840, *List Gen. Birds* [ed. 1] : 76

PODICIPINAE Bonaparte, 1838, *Geogr. comp. List Birds Eur. N. Amer.* : 64

PODICIPEDIDAE Ogilvie-Grant, 1898, *Cat. Birds Brit. Mus.* 26 : 502

Bonaparte (1831 and 1838) and Gray (1840) used the correct spelling *Podiceps* for this generic name, while (as already noted) Ogilvie-Grant (1898) used the Invalid Emendation *Podicipes* [Oken], this being, no doubt, the reason for the peculiar form adopted by him for the family name. The name PODICIPITIDAE (correction of PODICEPINAE) Bonaparte, 1831, should now be placed on the *Official List of Family-Group Names in Zoology*, while the following entries should be made on the corresponding *Official Index* :—PODICEPINAE Bonaparte, 1831 (an Invalid Original Spelling for PODICIPITIDAE), together with the following Erroneous Subsequent Spellings for the above name :—PODICEPSINAE Gray (G.R.), 1840 ; PODICIPINAE Bonaparte, 1838 ; PODICIPEDIDAE Ogilvie-Grant, 1898.

Recommendations

11. For the reasons set out in the present application it is recommended that the International Commission on Zoological Nomenclature should :—

- (1) use its Plenary Powers to suppress the under-mentioned family-group name for the purposes of the Law of Priority but not for

those of the Law of Homonymy : URINATORIDAE (correction of URINATOIRES) Vieillot, 1818 (type genus : *Urinator* Lacépède, 1799) (paragraph 7) ;

- (2) place the under-mentioned family-group names on the *Official List of Family-Group Names in Zoology* :—

(a) PODICIPITIDAE (correction of PODICEPINAE) Bonaparte, 1831 (type genus : *Podiceps* Latham, 1787) (paragraph 10) ;

(b) GAVIIDAE Coues, 1903 (type genus : *Gavia* Forster, 1788) (paragraph 4) ;

- (3) place the under-mentioned family-group names on the *Official Index of Rejected and Invalid Family-Group Names in Zoology* :—

(a) COLYMBIDAE Shaw, 1824 (type genus : *Colymbus* Linnaeus, 1758, incorrectly determined as the genus typified by *Colymbus immer* Brünnich, 1764 [The Great Northern Diver]) (invalid (i) under *Declaration* 28² because based upon an erroneously determined type genus and (ii) under *Declaration* 20 because the name of the type genus has been suppressed under the Plenary Powers) (paragraphs 2—3) ;

(b) COLYMBIDAE Coues, 1903 (type genus : *Colymbus* Linnaeus, 1758, correctly determined as the genus typified by *Colymbus cristatus* Linnaeus, 1758 [The Great Crested Grebe]) (invalid under *Declaration* 20 because the name of the type genus has been suppressed under the Plenary Powers) (paragraphs 2—3) ;

(c) PODICEPINAE Bonaparte, 1831 (type genus : *Podiceps* Latham, 1787) (an Invalid Original Spelling for PODICIPITIDAE) (paragraph 10) ;

(d) PODICEPSINAE Gray (G.R.), 1840 (type genus : *Podiceps* Latham, 1787) (an Erroneous Subsequent Spelling for PODICIPITIDAE) (paragraph 10) ;

(e) PODICIPINAE Bonaparte, 1838 (type genus : *Podiceps* Latham 1787) (an Erroneous Subsequent Spelling for PODICIPITIDAE) (paragraph 10) ;

² Published in 1955 (*Ops. Decls. int. Comm. zool. Nomencl.* 10 : 493—510)

- (f) PODICIPEDIDAE Ogilvie-Grant, 1898 (type genus : *Podicipes* [Oken], 1839, an Invalid Emendation of *Podiceps* Latham, 1787) (an Erroneous Subsequent Spelling for PÓDICIPITIDAE) (paragraph 10) ;
- (g) URINATORIDAE (correction of URINATOIRES) Vieillot, 1818 (type genus : *Urinator* Lacépède, 1799) (first published in correct form as URINATORIDAE, by Baird, Brewer and Ridgeway, 1884) as proposed to be suppressed under the Plenary Powers under (1) above (paragraph 7) ;
- (h) URINATOIRES Vieillot, 1818 (type genus : *Urinator* Lacépède, 1799 (an Invalid Original Spelling for URINATORIDAE) (paragraph 7) ;
- (4) place the under-mentioned specific name on the *Official List of Specific Names in Zoology* : *arcticus* Linnaeus, 1758, as published in the combination *Colymbus arcticus* (paragraph 8) ;
- (5) place the under-mentioned generic name on the *Official Index of Rejected and Invalid Generic Names in Zoology* : *Podicipes* [Oken], 1839 (an Invalid Emendation of *Podiceps* Latham, 1787) (paragraph 9) ;

ANNEXE

Report on the question of the correct form of the family-group name based upon the generic name "Podiceps" Latham, 1787 (Class Aves)

By L. W. GRENSTED, M.A., D.D.

(Consulting Classical Adviser to the
International Commission on Zoological Nomenclature)

Report dated 24th April 1956

In the case of the generic name *Podiceps* Latham the answer to the question of what is the correct form for the family name depends on the meaning of the name. I can make no sense of it except as derived from *podium* (a projecting balcony) and *caput* (a head). The termination "-ceps" in this sense occurs in several common classical

adjectives (*anceps*, *biceps*, *praeceps*, *triceps*). This gives a meaning specially appropriate to the Great Crested Grebe, and is obviously right. These classical forms in “-ceps” all make the genitive “-cipitis” (cf. *caput*) and the family name must therefore be PODICIPITIDAE.

Unfortunately “-ceps” also occurs as a derivative from *capio*, e.g. *auceps*, *-cupis*, *princeps*, *-ipis*. This makes no sense at all as a derivation for the name *Podiceps* (a foot-catcher, buttock-catcher, or balcony-catcher !) and can safely be disregarded, despite the more euphonious family name resulting.

I see in the *Handbook of British Birds* (4 : 85) the queer variant *Podicipes cristatus* (Linnaeus) Saunders, p. 717³. This looks like an attempt to make the word mean “foot-footed” ! But actually the classical adjective ending in “-ceps” are based upon pre-classical forms found in Plautus, etc., ending in “-cipes”. Thus, the classical *anceps* (two-headed) appears in Plautus as *ancipes*. The stem in either case is “-cipit-”, so that Saunders’s variant³ does not alter the answer to the main question. In any case it is wholly invalid.

II. THE SUBSEQUENT HISTORY OF THE CASE

2. Registration of the present application : Upon receipt of Mr. Hemming’s Report the question of the action required in connection with the family-group-name aspects of certain of the generic names dealt with in *Opinion* 401 was allotted the Registered Number Z.N.(S.) 1150.

3. Publication of the present application : The present application was sent to the printer on 12th July 1956 and was published on 28th September in the same year in Part 9 of Volume 12 of the *Bulletin of Zoological Nomenclature* (Hemming, 1956, *Bull. zool. Nomencl.* 12 : 240—247).

³ As noted in paragraph 9 of the foregoing application, the variant spelling *Podicipes* was first published in 1839 in an anonymous note believed to have been written by Oken.

4. Issue of Public Notices : Under the revised procedure prescribed by the Thirteenth International Congress of Zoology, Paris, 1948 (1950, *Bull. zool. Nomencl.* **4** : 51—56), Public Notice of the possible use by the International Commission on Zoological Nomenclature of its Plenary Powers in the present case was given on 28th September 1956 (a) in Part 9 of Volume **12** of the *Bulletin of Zoological Nomenclature* (the Part in which Mr. Hemming's Report was published) and (b) to the other prescribed serial publications. In addition, such Notice was given also to four general zoological serial publications. In view of the wide interest shown in the problem raised by the generic name *Colymbus* Linnaeus at the time of the discussions which led ultimately to the adoption of *Opinion* 401, copies of the foregoing Public Notice were communicated also to the twelve ornithological serial publications and institutions concerned with ornithology to which had been communicated the Public Notices issued in connection with the aspect of the present problem dealt with in the foregoing *Opinion*. The countries to which copies of the Public Notice were thus sent were : Australia ; Denmark ; France (2) ; Germany (2) ; Netherlands ; Union of South Africa ; United Kingdom ; U.S.A. (3).

5. No objection received : No objection to the action proposed in the present case was received from any source.

III. THE DECISION TAKEN BY THE INTERNATIONAL COMMISSION ON ZOOLOGICAL NOMENCLATURE

6. Issue of Voting Paper V.P.(O.M.)(57)4 : On 1st April 1957 a Voting Paper (V.P.(O.M.)(57)4) was issued in which the Members of the Commission were invited to vote either for, or against, "the proposal relating to the family-group name GAVIIDAE and matters associated therewith as set out in Points (1) to (5) in paragraph 11 on pages 245—246 of Volume 12 of the *Bulletin of Zoological Nomenclature*" [i.e. in the paragraph numbered as above in the paper reproduced in the first paragraph of the present *Direction*].

7. The Prescribed Voting Period : As the foregoing Voting Paper was issued under the One-Month Rule, the Prescribed Voting Period closed on 1st May 1957.

8. Particulars of the Voting on Voting Paper V.P.(O.M.)(57)4 : At the close of the Prescribed Voting Period, the state of the voting on Voting Paper V.P.(O.M.)(57) 4 was as follows :—

- (a) *Affirmative Votes had been given by the following twenty-four (24) Commissioners (arranged in the order in which Votes were received) :*

Lemche ; Riley ; Mayr ; Hering ; Bodenheimer ; Vokes ; Cabrera ; Bonnet ; Prantl ; Esaki ; Mertens ; Hemming ; Miller ; do Amaral ; Kühnelt ; Holthuis ; Jaczewski ; Boschma ; Bradley (J.C.) ; Sylvester-Bradley ; Dymond ; Stoll ; Tortonese ; Key ;

- (b) *Negative Votes :*

None ;

- (c) *Prevented from voting by interruption of postal communications consequent upon political disturbances, one (1) :*

Hankó ;

- (d) *Voting Papers not returned :*

None.

9. Declaration of Result of Vote : On 2nd May 1957, Mr. Hemming, Secretary to the International Commission, acting as Returning Officer for the Vote taken on Voting Paper V.P.(O.M.)(57)4, signed a Certificate that the Votes cast were as

set out in paragraph 8 above and declaring that the proposal submitted in the foregoing Voting Paper had been duly adopted and that the decision so taken was the decision of the International Commission in the matter aforesaid.

10. Preparation of the Ruling given in the present " Direction ":

On 5th May 1957 Mr. Hemming prepared the Ruling given in the present *Direction* and at the same time signed a Certificate that the terms of that Ruling were in complete accord with those of the proposal approved by the International Commission in its Vote on Voting Paper V.P.(O.M.)(57)4.

11. Original References : The following are the original references for the specific name placed on the *Official List* and the generic name placed on the *Official Index* by the Ruling given in the present *Direction* :—

arcticus, *Colymbus*, Linnaeus, 1758, *Syst. Nat.* (ed. 10) **1** : 135

Podicipes [Oken], 1839, *Isis* (Oken) **1839** : 673

12. The following are the original references for the family-group names placed on the *Official List* and on the *Official Index* of such names by the Ruling given in the present *Direction* :—

COLYMBIDAE Shaw, 1824, *Gen. Zool.* **12** : 230

COLYMBIDAE Coues, 1903, *Key N. Amer. Birds* (ed. 5) **2** : 104

GAVIIDAE Coues, 1903, *Key N. Amer. Birds* (ed. 5) **2** : 104

PODICEPSINAE Gray (G.R.), 1840, *List Gen. Birds* [ed. 1] : 76

PODICIPEDIDAE Ogilvie-Grant, 1898, *Cat. Birds Brit. Mus.* **26** : 502

PODICIPINAE Bonaparte, 1838, *Geogr. comp. List Birds Eur. N. Amer.* : 64

PODICIPITIDAE (correction of PODICEPINAE) Bonaparte, 1831, *Saggio Distr. met. Anim. Vertebr.* : 62

PODICEPINAE Bonaparte, 1831 (an Invalid Original Spelling for PODICIPITIDAE)

URINATORIDAE (correction of URINATORES) Vieillot, 1818, *Nouv. Dict. Hist. nat.* 27 : 120

URINATORES Vieillot, 1818 (an Invalid Original Spelling for URINATORIDAE)

13. The following is the original reference to the place of publication of the corrected form URINATORIDAE for the name URINATORES Vieillot, 1818, specified in the Ruling given in the present *Direction* :—

URINATORIDAE Baird, Brewer & Ridgeway, 1884, *Water Birds N. Amer.* 2 : 444

14. The prescribed procedures were duly complied with by the International Commission on Zoological Nomenclature in dealing with the present case, and the present *Direction* is accordingly hereby rendered in the name of the said International Commission by the under-signed Francis Hemming, Secretary in the International Commission on Zoological Nomenclature, to virtue of all and every the powers conferred upon him in that behalf.

15. The present *Direction* shall be known as *Direction* Seventy-Five (75) of the International Commission on Zoological Nomenclature.

DONE in London, this Fifth day of May, Nineteen Hundred and Fifty-Seven.

*Secretary to the International Commission
on Zoological Nomenclature*

FRANCIS HEMMING